



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
Washington, D.C. 20230

April 16, 1970

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Dr. Tribus has suggested that you might be of help in preparing the commencement address which he is to deliver June 13 at Georgia Tech. He has tentatively titled it "And the Half-truth Shall Make you Slaves."

I am trying to collect examples of instances in which statements by either the establishment or the reformers are true on the face and yet do not hold up entirely upon examination. Dr. Tribus gave as an example Ralph Nader's statement that a majority of the automobiles in California do not meet the pollution standards of that state. Basically it is true. However, because the pollution standards have continually been tightened, the automobiles which are operating there now represent a significant improvement over the pollution problem of just a few years ago. Dr. Tribus felt that you probably have a number of examples in your own field which are of that sort.

I thank you very much for your attention and any help you might be able to give us on this.

Sincerely yours,

J. F. Reilly
Special Assistant for Public Information

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STANFORD UNIV. DEPT. GENETICS

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